

# DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES, SOUTH-SOUTH SOLUTIONS

E-newsletter of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation in UNDP



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## 1) Ghana Wants to Tap Global Trendy Party Scene

Tourism is big business - and one of the most resilient parts of the global economy. Despite the international economic crisis that has wreaked havoc and increased unemployment and poverty in many countries since 2007, tourism is still going strong.

The UN's World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) (<http://www2.unwto.org/>) found international tourist arrivals grew by 5 per cent during the first half of 2013 from the same period in 2012, reaching 500 million arrivals.

"The fact that international tourism grew above expectations confirms that traveling is now part of consumer patterns for an increasing number of people in both emerging and advanced economies," said UNWTO Secretary-General Taleb Rifai. "This underlines the need to rightly place tourism as one of the key pillars of socio-economic development, being a leading contributor to economic growth, exports and jobs."

One successful way to lure tourists, especially young tourists, is to nurture hubs of culture, outdoor activities, music and fashion around a holiday destination - generally one involving sun and sand. Such "party scenes" can be found in hotspots as far afield as Florida, the Spanish island of Ibiza and Koh Samui (<http://www.kohsamui.com/>) in Thailand. While at times annoying to local people, these groups of young tourists do bring significant wealth to smaller towns and seaside communities.

And now there are some in Africa who want to replicate this successful business formula in beach communities.

The Ghanaian fishing village of Kokrobite (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kokrobite>), located west of the capital, Accra, has become a nascent hub for a dance music scene and beach parties.

"We are organizing an all-day-long beach party with DJs, food and partying, inspired by the kind of summer jams that are held in Miami," Basil Anthony, Chief Executive of Silky Entertainment (<http://www.silkyentertainment.com/>), told The Guardian newspaper. Silky Entertainment is organizer of Ghana Summer Beach Rave 2013.

"We are expecting partygoers in the thousands, and double the number we had last year. It's going to be big."

Other popular events include Tidal Rave (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8f5Wy3g9Y7w>), aimed at university students, and an upmarket champagne party at Bella Roma beach which attracts expats and wealthy Ghanaians.

While these events have been very popular locally, ambitious entertainment entrepreneurs want to take the parties to the next level and make them truly global events, attracting tourists from around the world.

"The next Ibiza will be in Africa. It has already started," said Andrew Tumi, also known as Won, a singer from the group Supafly.

"We are trying to recreate the good things about going to Ibiza, the music and the vibes. But more and more we are creating our own sound here, an Afro-house, reggae, African mashup... It's really blending the African rhythm into a house scene."

Dance music is hot right now, and is being refreshed with new trends in Afro-house and Afro-pop from across the continent. This in turn is creating a demand for parties to celebrate and enjoy the music.

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The economic impact is considerable as the parties inspire other businesses to feed off the good vibrations. DJ MoBlack, who works in a nightclub in Accra, told The Guardian, "It's not just the music, it's a whole scene that's on the rise - goods, fashion, jewelry - there is a style revolution happening around it. It's a unique African vibe, but something that people everywhere can relate to."

The impact on the tourism sector is already quantifiable. Tourist visits to Ghana grew from 400,000 a year in 2005 to 1 million in 2011.

Ben Ohene-Aryeh at the Ghana Tourism Authority (<http://www.ghana.travel/>) is optimistic bigger things are to come: "[The scene] is catching on well with the youth and now we hope that it will be done on a massive scale," he said.

There is, however, a downside to this strategy: drug use is on the increase. According to the West Africa Commission on Drugs ([wacommissionondrugs.org](http://wacommissionondrugs.org)), marijuana use is on the rise as well as harder drugs such as cocaine.

It's clear there are pitfalls to the youth-tourism strategy, but these can be managed with the right strategy - and the economic opportunities for small communities are substantial.

#### **LINKS:**

- 1) Information on drug tourism from DARA Thailand: DARA is Asia's first and leading international destination for drug and alcohol rehabilitation. **Website:** <http://alcoholrehab.com/alcohol-rehab/drug-tourism/>.
- 2) 3rd UNWTO International Conference on Tourism and the Media: How new media is shaping the news: With the rise of the new media, both the media landscape and the way stories are being told are changing. Millions of consumers now have the possibility to directly engage in the editorial process due to faster than ever evolving technology. More recently, mobile technology and a myriad of applications for smart phone devices are increasingly influencing communication flows. **Website:** <http://www2.unwto.org/en/event/3rd-unwto-international-conference-tourism-and-media-how-new-media-shaping-news>.
- 3) The UNWTO World Tourism Barometer: A regular publication of the Tourism Trends and Marketing Strategies Programme of UNWTO aimed at monitoring the short-term evolution of tourism and providing the sector with relevant and timely information. **Website:** <http://mkt.unwto.org/en/barometer>
- 4) Tourism Investment and Business Forum for Africa: INVESTOUR is an annual tourism business and knowledge exchange platform in which representatives of African tourism and potential Spanish and Portuguese investors/partners meet to discuss about business and cooperation opportunities. **Website:** <http://africa.unwto.org/en/event/v-tourism-investment-and-business-forum-africa-investour-edition-2014-madrid-spain>

## **2) China Pushing Frontiers of Medical Research**

Cutting-edge medical research in China is promising to boost human health and development. Futuristic science is being conducted on a large scale and it is hoped this will increase the pace of discovery.

Around the world, rapid progress is being made in understanding the role played by genes and how they affect our overall health and susceptibility to diseases. Other developments are leading to the possibility of creating replacements for organs and other body parts that have been damaged through accidents, disease or genetic faults - without the need for organ donors.

Medical advances straight out of science fiction could be closer than many believe. By using machines and gene therapy, radical new methods will emerge to deal with damage done to human bodies as a result of accidents or disease. These solutions will become, in time, quicker, smaller and cheaper and will be available to more and more countries. They will spread outwards around the global South just as mobile phones and computing electronics have done.

In China, the government is investing heavily in this cutting-edge research and attracting investment and projects from around the world to increase the pace of progress in these areas.

In September 2013, Reuters reported that a 22-year-old man named Xiaolian in Fuzhou, China had a new nose grown on his forehead to replace his original nose that had been damaged in a car accident. Conventional reconstructive surgery was not possible, so this radical new approach was taken.

The advantages of growing a nose on the patient include a reduced chance of rejection by the body when the new organ is attached. Transplants of body parts from other people come with a high risk of rejection and require many drugs to prevent it. Using skin near where the transplant is to take place, on the face, improves the chances of success and the blood vessels in the forehead offer nourishment to grow the new nose.

The procedure works like this: tissue expanders are placed on the patient's forehead. As it grows, the doctors cut the mass of tissue into the shape of a nose and cartilage from the patient's ribs is placed inside to give the nose shape. The new proboscis (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proboscis>) grows under the skin until it is the right size and then transplanted onto the patient's face where their old nose was.

Many believe this is just the beginning and that in the future replacement organs will be also grown in a lab. And this is where the new medical technology of 3D bioprinting comes into play.

3D printing machines (<http://www.k8200.eu/>), or fabricators, can create 3D objects based on a design sent from a computer. This concept is now also being applied to biological materials with 3D bioprinters.

Hangzhou Dianzi University of Electronic Science and Technology ([hdu.edu.cn](http://hdu.edu.cn)) in China launched the Regenovo 3D Bio-printer in August 2013. It prints living tissue and looks like a silver metal frame with various nozzles situated above a platform for printing the tissue. Its makers claim it can print a liver in 40 minutes to an hour or an ear in 50 minutes.

A sheet of hydrogel is placed on the platform and then the bioprinter deposits cells into the hydrogel. As the process is repeated over and over again, layer after layer, a 3D biological structure emerges.

Unique Technology ([sinounic.com](http://sinounic.com)) in Qingdao, Shandong province has also launched a 3D printer called "Re-human". It is capable of printing at 15 microns and can operate in temperatures of between 0 and 300 degrees Celsius. Scientists there are working on clinical trials of 3D-printed tissue scaffolds and bones.

China is very advanced in the development of 3D manufacturing technology, and is home to the world's largest 3D printers, developed by Dalian University of Technology (<http://www.dlut.edu.cn/en/>). Another Chinese company pioneering this technology is Shaanxi Hengtong Intelligent Machines (<http://www.china-rpm.com/english/>), which sells various laser-using rapid prototyping machines and 3D machines.

Around the world, bioprinting is currently being pioneered for printing heart valves, ears, artificial bones, joints, vascular tubes, and skin for grafts.

The number of scientific papers mentioning bioprinting tripled between 2008 and 2011 according to Popular Science. But why is this happening? Three things are occurring at once: sophisticated 3D printers are now available, there are significant advances in regenerative medicine, and CAD (computer-aided design) ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer-aided\\_design](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer-aided_design)) software continues to become more advanced.

San Diego, California's Organovo ([organovo.com](http://organovo.com)), a company that designs and creates functional human tissues using 3D bioprinting, has big ambitions for the technology.

"Getting to a whole organ-in-a-box that's plug-and-play and ready to go, I believe that could happen in my lifetime," its chief technology officer, Sharon Presnell, told Popular Science.

In the field of gene science, China is also investing significant resources to make rapid progress. China is working to make its genetic research industry into one of the country's pillar industries.

Beijing Genomics Institute (BGI) (<http://www.genomics.cn/en/index>) is the world's largest genome-mapping institute, with more than 1,000 biological analysis devices working with top-of-the-line genome-sequencing machines. What makes BGI different is scale: it can handle data in vast quantities and industrialize its research, according to China Daily.

The China National Genebank in Shenzhen (<http://www.nationalgenebank.org/en/index.html>), associated with BGI and its Cognitive Genetics Project, is one of the largest gene banks in the world. It has collected the DNA (<http://www.biologycorner.com/bio1/DNA.html>) samples of some of the world's smartest people to sequence their genomes and work out which alleles (<http://www.sciencedaily.com/articles/a/allele.htm>) determine human intelligence.

But what will they do with this information? By doing embryo screening, it will be possible to pick the brightest zygote (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zygote>) and ensure an entire generation's intelligence is increased by five to 15 IQ (intelligence quotient) points. This could have a significant impact on the country's economic performance, the researchers believe, and help in the country making more rapid economic and development gains. This line of research is also seen globally as being fraught with ethical dilemmas and is controversial.

But the Chinese researchers believe the country's economic productivity, business success, international competitiveness and the amount of innovation in the economy could all increase with an IQ boost.

The eggs are fertilized in the lab with the father's sperm and the embryos are tested until they find the smartest one.

Embryo analysis could take place on a large scale in a few years. But it is not just better brains that are possible with this technique: choices can be made about hair and eye colors, and physical attributes such as body shape.

This level of research is benefiting from vast investments in higher education in China.

And it isn't just human beings receiving the vast investment in gene research.

To help agriculture and agribusiness, the National Center for Gene Research (NCGR) ([ncgr.ac.cn](http://ncgr.ac.cn)) is mapping and sequencing the rice genome, and genomes of other organisms. Since 2007, it has been using the latest generation sequencing technology to map the rice genome to identify common genetic factors. It has 50 million base pairs of rice genomic DNA sequences in its public database. It is hoped this will lead to more robust rice varieties that can withstand disease and climate fluctuations and help meet the food needs of a growing global population.

#### LINKS:

- 1) Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine: Wake Forest Innovations was created in 2012 as a new operating division of Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center. As the Medical Center's technology commercialization arm, Wake Forest Innovations supports scholarship, investing in the innovative potential of academic and clinical communities and helping translate ideas and discoveries into valuable commercial products and services. **Website:** <http://www.wakehealth.edu/WFIRM/>
- 2) DEKA Research & Development: DEKA Research and Development Corporation is an established company focused on the development of radical new healthcare technologies that span a diverse set of applications. **Website:** <http://www.dekaresearch.com/index.shtml>
- 3) Organovo: Organovo design and create functional human tissues using proprietary three-dimensional bioprinting technology. The goal is to build living human tissues that are proven to function like native tissues. **Website:** <http://www.organovo.com/>
- 4) Project Cyborg: A web-based platform geared toward nanoscale molecular modeling and simulations for cellular biology. **Website:** <http://www.autodeskresearch.com/projects/cyborg>
- 5) Make your own bioprinter: DIYBioPrinter: Step by step construction of a bioprinter from an old HP 5150 inkjet printer. **Website:** <http://www.instructables.com/id/DIY-BioPrinter/>
- 6) Autodesk is working on CAD software for bioprinting. **Website:** [autodesk.co.uk](http://autodesk.co.uk)
- 7) BGI Cognitive Genetics Project: BGI Cognitive Genomics is an interdisciplinary research group at BGI, one of the largest genomics institutes in the world. The focus is human cognition, with emphasis on the use of tools made available by rapid advances in DNA sequencing technology. **Website:** <https://www.cog-genomics.org/>
- 8) Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology Chinese Academy of Sciences: The mission of the institute is to address fundamental questions in genetics and developmental biology and to develop new technologies for the uses in health care and agriculture sciences as well as to meet the nation's strategic needs in science and technology. Scientists in the institute use both plant and animal models to address fundamental questions in life sciences, such as genetic control of growth and development, gene expression, signal transduction, structural and functional genomics, biotech and molecular breeding, bioinformatics and systems biology. As China owns the biggest agricultural market in the world, researchers in the Institute have also made significant efforts on water saving agriculture and agronomic studies, focusing on the improvement of crop productivity and quality as well as bio-safety. **Website:** <http://english.genetics.cas.cn/au/>

### 3) Latin American Food Renaissance Excites Diners

Food is essential for a good life and plays a critical part in overall human health and development. The better the quality of food available to the population, the better each individual's overall health will be, and this will have a direct impact on mental and physical performance <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2213453012000055>).

An innovative restaurant can be the beginning of a taste and flavors renaissance as new foods are discovered and the recipes and foods are cross-marketed. It is an effective strategy that has worked around the world. The restaurant's brand, in turn, becomes a valuable commodity that can be used to promote a range of products. For example, Brazil's D.O.M. Restaurante has successfully used its strong reputation to help promote a range of food products drawn from the Amazon rainforest. There is money to be made in this and it can be a major boost to the incomes of food producers, especially small-scale farmers.

As is being found across South America, a rediscovered love of local cuisines and indigenous culinary culture can also lead to profits and a growing global awareness of the continent's varied foods and recipes.

Innovators are playing with traditional cooking and locally available foods to come up with a modern Latin American cuisine that is getting people very excited.

The latest country to benefit from this is Peru. The first Michelin star awarded to a Peruvian restaurant in Europe went to a restaurant in London, UK. The Michelin (<http://travel.michelin.co.uk/michelin-guides-105-c.asp>) star is awarded to a restaurant based on the quality of its food and its overall atmosphere and service.

The London restaurant Lima ([limalondon.com](http://limalondon.com)) is part of the global rise in awareness of Latin American food. It was launched by Venezuelan brothers Gabriel and Jose Luis Gonzalez in partnership with Peruvian chef Virgilio Martinez. Their signature dishes include sea bream ceviche (a lime-preserved raw fish dish) and suckling pig done in the "Andes" style.

Martinez is also a chef consultant for the Central Restaurante (<http://centralrestaurante.com.pe/es/>) in Lima, Peru. It was named one of The World's 50 Best Restaurants by S. Pellegrino ([theworlds50best.com](http://theworlds50best.com)).

Gabriel Gonzalez moved to London from Paris two years ago, and is surprised at how quickly he and his colleagues have made an impact.

"It was definitely not expected. ... It's just incredible, it definitely sets a precedent for Peruvian food and gives it a stamp of credibility and a lot of promise, it's just amazing," he told the London Evening Standard.

As another mark of the rising profile of Latin American food, the first edition of Latin America's 50 Best Restaurants was held in Lima in September 2013 ([theworlds50best.com/latinamerica/en/](http://theworlds50best.com/latinamerica/en/)). In its press release, it said: "The evolution and robustness of gastronomy in Latin America has demanded recognition."

It comes after the first expansion of the awards to Asia with Asia's 50 Best Restaurants, held in Singapore in February 2013.

The ceremony in Peru is being seen as another vote of confidence in Peru's innovative restaurant scene. Other acknowledgements of the country's culinary success include winning in 2012 the World's Best Culinary Destination by the World Travel Awards. The Organization of American States (OAS) also declared Peru's cuisine part of America's World Heritage ([oas.org](http://oas.org)).

The number of South American restaurants on the The World's 50 Best Restaurants list increased to six in 2013, two more than in 2012. This year's winners include the innovative Brazilian restaurant D.O.M. in Sao Paulo, and Astrid y Gaston (<http://astridygaston.com/en/>) in Lima.

D.O.M. Restaurante's (<http://domrestaurante.com.br/pt-br/home.html>) chef Alex Atala is a passionate champion of Brazil's traditional ingredients and dishes. He trawls the Amazon rainforest for new taste sensations and then deploys them in his inventive dishes in the restaurant. D.O.M. was named the best restaurant in South America for four years in a row by The World's 50 Best Restaurants.

At Astrid y Gaston in Lima, an innovative take on menus shows how the restaurant stands out from the rest. The restaurant uses storytelling techniques to build up interest in its various menus. One example is the Winter 2013 Tasting Menu with its title El Viaje, meaning trip or journey. "It is a story told through a long sequence of courses divided into five acts, a mise en scène where we attempt to take the life experiences of a restaurant beyond its traditional gastronomic limits," the restaurant says on its website.

"During each of the five acts, the dishes, the music, the clothing, the decoration, the tableware and the book that accompanies this experience, will narrate the turning points that define this life journey"

Astrid y Gaston is a partnership between a German and a Peruvian who set out to challenge the dominance of French haute cuisine and started the restaurant in 1994.

"Twenty years later, much has happened with Peru and Peruvian cuisine. Unlike those times when inspiration was sought in foreign ingredients and recipes, when cooks locked themselves up in their kitchens and lived with suspicion of their peers, ignoring the farmers' work and the social and ecological challenges of the environment, today's cooking is fortunately getting a breath of fresh and beautiful air."

Another cuisine pioneer is Pujol ([pujol.com.mx](http://pujol.com.mx)) in Mexico City, Mexico. It serves Mexican cuisine focused on local ingredients blending ancient and modern culinary techniques. The food is original and exciting: for starters, there is baby corn and chichatana ant, aguachile with chia seeds and avocado, suckling lamb taco, and for desert, fermented plantain, macadamia nuts, plantain vinegar and chamomile flower petals.

The potential is enormous for marrying these restaurant innovators with the many small-scale farmers and food producers to boost awareness of their products and increase incomes across South and Central America.

#### LINKS:

- 1) Latin American food pyramid: A guide to eating a healthy diet using common foods from Latin America. **Website:** <http://www.foodpyramid.com/food-pyramids/latin-american-pyramid/>
- 2) Visit Peru: Peru Tourism Bureau: Includes extensive information on Peruvian food and cuisine. **Website:** <http://visitperu.com/>
- 3) How functional foods play critical roles in human health by Guangchang Pang, Junbo Xie, Qingsen Chen and Zhihe Hu. **Website:** <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2213453012000055>



- 4) Geothermal Southern Innovator Issue 3: Agribusiness and Food Security: **Website:** [http://books.google.com.au/books?id=-Y6Gnqx9PlcC&source=gbs\\_similarbooks\\_r&cad=2](http://books.google.com.au/books?id=-Y6Gnqx9PlcC&source=gbs_similarbooks_r&cad=2)

#### 4) Perfume of Peace Helps Farmers Switch From Drug Trade

A tragedy in a time of war has led to a social enterprise that is creating jobs - and making the world smell a little better, too.

The 7 Virtues perfume range was started by Canadian Barb Stegemann (<http://www.barbstegemann.com/barb-stegemann-in-the-news.html>) to harness the energy of social enterprise and women's buying power to change the dynamic of war and misery created by conflict around the world.

Stegemann ran a successful public relations company when she was inspired to do something after tragedy struck a good friend who was serving in Afghanistan with the Canadian Armed Forces as part of the NATO mission (<http://www.isaf.nato.int/>). Hit on the head with an axe while involved in a village meeting, Captain Trevor Greene was thought to be fatally injured but survived, though he is still unable to walk.

The violent attack shocked Stegemann into action. The enterprise was founded not out of hatred and revenge, but as a way of addressing the serious economic problems and poverty of Afghanistan.

Wanting to do something, Stegemann was referred to the Turquoise Mountain Foundation ([turquoisemountain.org](http://turquoisemountain.org)), which is based in Afghanistan's capital, Kabul. The Turquoise Mountain Foundation is a social enterprise working in Afghanistan to regenerate the country's traditional arts and historic areas in order to create jobs and boost skills.

Stegemann was inspired by a farmer called Abdullah Arsala from Jalalabad in the eastern part of the country. He was growing the ingredients for making essential oils, rather than the much more lucrative opium poppies which are used to make the drug heroin and help fuel a vast global illegal drug trade. Heroin addiction ruins many lives around the world and often leads to crime and violence.

The Turquoise Mountain Foundation did a study and found that if farmers could be paid US \$9,912 for a litre of rose oil or US \$7,994 for orange blossom oil it would be enough of a market incentive to lure them away from growing opium poppies.

Stegemann decided to provide that incentive.

Using her life savings, she established a perfume company. To start, Stegemann bought Arsala's entire stock of orange blossom oil. After getting further investment through the Canadian television program Dragons' Den - on which entrepreneurs compete for funding - she launched the company with two perfumes: Orange Blossom of Afghanistan and Noble Rose of Afghanistan.

With the whole collection rebranded as The 7 Virtues (<http://www.the7virtues.com/>), the Afghanistan Orange Blossom went on sale at the prestigious Selfridges department store in London, U.K.

Using Arsala as a go-between, 2,500 farmers in Afghanistan are now supplying essential oils for the perfumes.

To further expand the concept, Stegemann has launched Middle East Peace ([http://www.the7virtues.com/middle\\_east\\_peace.php](http://www.the7virtues.com/middle_east_peace.php)), a perfume made from sweetie grapefruit oil from Israel with lime and basil oils from Iran.

In Haiti, a country still recovering from the 2010 earthquake disaster and decades of grinding poverty and political and economic chaos, she has created a scent for men using fragrant grass. She hopes to also do the same for Rwanda and Syria.

The perfumes are all-natural and are put together in Toronto, Canada. They are sold in stores in Canada and the United States, as well as Selfridges in London.

The success has snowballed and a special gift pack has been put together for American Airlines.

"I never imagined I'd end up on a beauty counter, but this is where the women are and we must connect with them if we are going to reverse this cycle of war and poverty," Stegemann told The Sunday Times. "Imagine if there were 300 women like me doing things like this. We could make a real difference."

#### **LINKS:**

- 1) Centre for International Policy Studies: University of Ottawa: A focal point for scholarship and debate on international affairs in Canada. **Website:** <http://cips.uottawa.ca/>
- 2) Post-war Reconstruction and Development Unit: The PRDU is an international centre of excellence for the study of post-conflict societies and their recovery. **Website:** <http://www.york.ac.uk/politics/centres/prdu/>

- 3) Peacebuilding and post-conflict recovery: The experience of recent years has also led the United Nations to focus as never before on peacebuilding – efforts to reduce a country's risk of lapsing or relapsing into conflict by strengthening national capacities for conflict management, and to lay the foundations for sustainable peace and development. **Website:** <http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/about/peacebuilding.shtml>
- 4) United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: UNODC is a global leader in the fight against illicit drugs and international crime. UNODC is mandated to assist Member States in their struggle against illicit drugs, crime and terrorism. **Website:** <http://www.unodc.org/>

## 5) US \$450 Million Pledged for Green Economy Investments at Kenyan Expo

Innovators working in the global green economy could benefit from over US \$450 million in investment recently pledged at the UN's Global South-South Development Expo held in Nairobi, Kenya.

A combination of green investors, businesses, governments and others came together at the UN Environment Programme's (UNEP) headquarters in the Kenyan capital from 28 October to 1 November 2013 to share solutions and strike deals and partnerships.

The event represented a significant turning point in awareness of the role played by the global South's innovators in global development and growing economies. The quantity of pledges and investment deals struck at the Expo bodes well for the future of south-south solution sharing.

Organized by the UN's Office for South-South Cooperation in UNDP ([southsouthexpo.org](http://southsouthexpo.org)) and hosted by UNEP ([unep.org](http://unep.org)) under the theme "Building inclusive green economies", the Global South-South Development Expo is the world's biggest event for development solutions created in the South for the South.

"The theme of this year's Expo is fitting in that Southern countries have both the opportunity and the obligation to pursue a 'smarter' development course than their predecessors," said General Assembly President John Ashe.

Examples of the investment deals struck include helping to build organic fertilizer factories and constructing solar power plants in Kenya, and growing green business ventures for women in Egypt.

South-South cooperation is the exchange of resources, technology and knowledge between developing countries. Today, over US \$5 trillion in currency reserves are held by countries of the global South. They also make up 47 per cent of global trade.

Tapping this rich resource is an unparalleled economic development opportunity and could be one of the main engines of growth in the years ahead, the Expo organizers believe.

"As so many stories that we have heard this week demonstrate, South-South Cooperation is playing a vital role in facilitating this global transition," said UN Under-Secretary-General and UNEP Executive Director Achim Steiner.

"Not only are these local, national and regional efforts producing positive results, but they are overcoming barriers, building new partnerships, creating new finance mechanisms, generating knowledge, sharing information, providing training and capacity building in areas and sectors that are critical for a global transition to a low carbon, resource efficient and inclusive economy," he added.

As an example of how solutions are shared and deals are struck, more than 40 companies were successfully matched and held business negotiations using the Expo's South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange (SS-GATE). An online match-making service bringing together innovative companies with the knowledge and funding they need to grow, the SS-GATE was able to get 148 companies to list their projects on the SS-GATE web-platform during an Expo event.

For the first time in its history, the Expo garnered a strong online presence with the help of volunteers who collaborated remotely around the world on social media. The event was so popular that it trended on Twitter in Kenya, meaning that the message of the value and growing scope of South-South cooperation reached the next generation of development practitioners, entrepreneurs, environmentalists, thinkers and leaders.

Also at the Expo, the fourth issue of Southern Innovator magazine ([southerninnovator.org](http://southerninnovator.org)) had its official launch. Southern Innovator Issue 4 visits the new cities being built to tackle the challenges of a rapidly urbanizing 21st-century world. The magazine also highlights some of the solutions being devised to the challenges people face as the world becomes a majority urban place.

Some innovators are building new cities from scratch, applying the latest thinking and hard-wiring in cutting-edge information technologies and innovative environmental measures to create "smart" cities and eco-cities. Architects are designing and refining homes that are beautiful and functional, easy to build, affordable and conserve energy. Social entrepreneurs are innovating ways to create liveable and socially inclusive urban areas, often in places where planning has been scant and where incomes are very low. All the stories featured in the magazine were chosen for their focus on improving human development and for their ingenuity and fresh thinking.

Southern Innovator champions a 21st-century global innovator culture. It is being distributed through the United Nations' network and partners and reaches some of the world's poorest and remotest places, as well as the vibrant but stressed growing global megacities. It is hoped the magazine will inspire budding innovators with its mix of stories, essential information, facts and figures, images and graphics.

## LINKS:

- 1) Global South-South Development Expo: The Global South-South Development Expo (GSSD Expo) is the FIRST EVER Expo solely from the South and for the South. It showcases successful Southern-grown development solutions (SDSs) to address the need to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). **Website:** <http://www.southsouthexpo.org/>
- 2) Southern Innovator online story archive: Organized by theme, the story archive is a treasure trove of innovation stories and resources from the global South stretching back to 2006. **Website:** [southerninnovator.org](http://southerninnovator.org)
- 3) Southern Innovator on Scribd: Archived copies of the full-color, 60-page magazine can be downloaded here. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/SouthernInnovator>.
- 4) Southern Innovator on Twitter: Catch Southern Innovator's Tweets and keep on top of a growing global network of innovators. Follow @SouthSouth1

## WINDOW ON THE WORLD

Check out our website archive: [southerninnovator.org](http://southerninnovator.org)

Southern Innovator (ISSN 2222-9280) magazine's fourth issue is now online and print copies are available for distribution. The fourth issue's theme is on cities and urbanization. View the issue online here: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/133622315/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-4-Cities-and-Urbanization>. Contact us about opportunities to sponsor this issue or any future issues and we can send you more information on how it works.

Issue 5, on waste and recycling, is complete and will be published soon. Please contact the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation if you would like a copy (copies) of Southern Innovator (<http://ssc.undp.org/content/ssc.html>).

**The covers for issues 2, 3 and 4 are below:**



Issue 2 on Youth and Entrepreneurship; Issue 3 on Agribusiness and Food Security, Issue 4 on Cities and Urbanization are available. Issue 5 is also in the works for early 2014 release.

Follow us on Twitter @SouthSouth1

Issue 1 of Southern Innovator was called "...a terrific tour de force of what is interesting, cutting edge and relevant in the global mobile/ICT space..."

Also check out our South South Expo: 2012's Expo was held in Vienna, Austria: [southsouthexpo.org](http://southsouthexpo.org)



## BOOKS

**NEW: Human Development Report 2013: The Rise of the South.** The 2013 Human Development Report examines the profound shift in global dynamics driven by the fast-rising new powers of the developing world and its long-term implications for human development. **Website:** <http://hdr.undp.org/en/mediacentre/humandevreportpresskits/2013report/>

*Human Development Reports*, (1990-2013). **Website:** <http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2011/>

*The New Harvest: Agricultural Innovation in Africa* by Calestous Juma, Publisher: Oxford University Press. **Website:** [http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/20504/new\\_harvest.html](http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/20504/new_harvest.html)

**NEW:** *Edible Insects: Future prospects for food and feed security*, Publisher: FAO. **Website:** <http://www.fao.org/docrep/018/i3253e/i3253e00.htm>

*Innovative Africa: The New Face of Africa: Essays on the Rise of Africa's Innovation Age* by Will Mutua and Mbwana Ally, Publisher: Afrinnovator. **Website:** <http://book.afrinnovator.com/>

*The Solution Revolution* by William D. Eggers and Paul Macmillan, Publisher: Harvard Business Press. Where tough societal problems persist, citizens, social enterprises, and yes, even businesses, are relying less and less on government-only solutions. More likely, they are crowd funding, ride-sharing, app- developing or impact-investing to design lightweight solutions for seemingly intractable problems. No challenge is too daunting, from malaria in Africa to traffic congestion in California. **Website:** [solutionrevolutionbook.com](http://solutionrevolutionbook.com)

*Aid on the Edge of Chaos* by Ben Ramalingam, Publisher: Oxford University Press. **Website:** <http://aidontheedge.info/>

*Big Data: A Revolution That Will Transform How We Live, Work and Think* by Viktor Mayer-Schonberger and Kenneth Cukier, Publisher: John Murray. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*The New Digital Age: Reshaping the Future of People, Nations and Business* by Eric Schmidt and Jared Cohen, Publisher: John Murray. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*Interconnected Economies: Benefiting from Global Value Chains*, Publisher: OECD. **Website:** <http://www.oecd.org/sti/ind/global-value-chains.htm>

*Need, Speed and Greed: How the New Rules of Innovation Can Transform Businesses, Propel Nations to Greatness, and Tame the World's Most Wicked Problems* by Vijay Vaitheeswaran, Publisher: HarperBusiness. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*Living in the Endless City* edited by Ricky Burdett and Deyan Sudjic, Publisher: Phaidon. The city is the subject of the 21st century. All over the world, populations are shifting towards urban centres. *Living in the Endless City* depicts an authoritative survey of cities of today and the prospects for our urban future of tomorrow. 36 contributors from across Europe, South America, China, Africa and the U.S. set the agenda for the city - detailing its successes as well as its failures. **Website:** <http://www.urban-age.net/publications/living-in-the-endless-city/>  
*Consumptionomics: Asia's Role in Reshaping Capitalism* by Chandran Nair, Publisher: Infinite Ideas. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*World 3.0: Global Prosperity and How to Achieve It* by Pankaj Ghemawa, Publisher: Harvard Business School Press. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*The Idealist: Jeffrey Sachs and the Quest to End Poverty* by Nina Munk, Publisher: Doubleday. In 2006, Sachs launched the Millennium Villages Project, a daring five-year experiment designed to test his theories in Africa. For the past six years, Nina Munk has reported deeply on the Millennium Villages Project, accompanying Sachs on his official trips to Africa and listening in on conversations with heads-of-state, humanitarian organizations, rival economists, and development experts. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*Breakout Nations* by Ruchir Sharma, Publisher: Penguin. Breakout Nations offers journeys through more than two dozen of the most interesting economies in the emerging world. **Website:** <http://breakoutnations.com/>

*Light Manufacturing in Africa* by Hinh T. Dinh et al, Publisher: World Bank. This book examines how light manufacturing can offer a viable solution for sub-Saharan Africa's need for structural transformation and productive job creation, given its potential competitiveness based on low wage costs and an abundance of natural resources that supply raw materials needed for industries. **Website:** <http://issuu.com/world.bank.publications/docs/9780821389614>

*China: And the End of Poverty in Africa – Towards Mutual Benefit?* by Penny Davis, Publisher: Diakonia and the European Network on Debt and Development. **Website:** [www.eurodad.org/uploadedFiles/Whats\\_New/Reports/Kinarapport\\_A4.pdf](http://www.eurodad.org/uploadedFiles/Whats_New/Reports/Kinarapport_A4.pdf)

*State of the Field in Youth Enterprise, Employment, and Livelihoods Development*, Publisher: Making Cents International. This practical resource features learning from over 80 leading organizations that are working around the world to increase and improve economic opportunities for young people. Topics include youth enterprise development; workforce development; youth-inclusive financial services; working with adolescent girls

and young women; and monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment. **Website:** [www.YouthEconomicOpportunities.org/media.asp](http://www.YouthEconomicOpportunities.org/media.asp)

*Vitamin Green: The Definitive Guide to the World of Contemporary Sustainable Design: Features 100 Innovative Projects from Around the World* by editors of Phaidon Press, Publisher: Phaidon Press. **Website:** <http://uk.phaidon.com/store/architecture/vitamin-green-9780714862293/>

*Makers: The New Industrial Revolution* By Chris Anderson, Publisher: Crown Business. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*World Economic Outlook, October 2012: Coping with High Debt and Sluggish Growth*, Publisher: IMF. **Website:** [eurospangroup.com](http://eurospangroup.com)

*Information Economy Report 2012: The Software Industry and Developing Countries*, Publisher: United Nations Publications. **Website:** [eurospangroup.com](http://eurospangroup.com)

*China and India: Towards Global Economic Supremacy?* by Rita Dulci and Jose Miguel Andreu, Publisher: Academic Foundation. **Website:** [eurospanbookstore.com](http://eurospanbookstore.com)

*Devaluing to Prosperity: Misaligned Currencies and Their Growth Consequences* by Surjit S. Bhalla, Publisher: Peterson Institute for International Economics. **Website:** [eurospanbookstore.com](http://eurospanbookstore.com)

*The Production and Distribution of Knowledge in the United States* by Fritz Machlup, Publisher: Princeton University Press. The Production and Distribution of Knowledge in the United States marked the beginning of the study of our postindustrial information society. Austrian-born economist Fritz Machlup had focused his research on the patent system, but he came to realize that patents were simply one part of a much bigger "knowledge economy." He then expanded the scope of his work to evaluate everything from stationery and typewriters to advertising to presidential addresses - anything that involved the activity of telling anyone anything. The Production and Distribution of Knowledge in the United States then revealed the new and startling shape of the U.S. economy. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*Chinnovation: How Chinese Innovators are Changing the World* by Yinglan Tan, Publisher: John Wiley & Sons. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*Hello World: Where Design Meets Life* by Alice Rawsthorn, Publisher: Hamish Hamilton. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)  
*Urgent Architecture: 40 Sustainable Housing Solutions for a Changing World* by Bridgette Meinhold, Publisher: W.W. Norton & Co. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*When the Money Runs Out: The End of Western Affluence* by Stephen D. King, Publisher: Yale Books. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*Architecture Now! Vol. 9* by Philip Jodidio, Publisher: Taschen. Architecture Now! 9 includes works in Amsterdam and Inner Mongolia by architects as famous as Zaha Hadid and Jean Nouvel, and those as little known to the general public as Carla Juaçaba from Brazil. **Website:** [tashcen.com](http://tashcen.com)

## **Papers and Reports**

Latest publications from UNRISD in Geneva on the Social and Solidarity Economy: Think pieces by Meyer and Leal on Community Development Banks in Brazil, by Richards and Ruddick on Complementary Currencies in Kenya. and by Larraitz Altuna-Gabilondo on the Mondragon cooperative in Spain.

The SSE conference event brief is now available in English, French and Spanish at [http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/%28httpPublicationsHome%29/\\$First?OpenDocument](http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/%28httpPublicationsHome%29/$First?OpenDocument)

The new Social and Solidarity Economy LinkedIn group is stimulating dialogue and networking between practitioners, researchers and policy makers around the world. We invite you to join the group today. As a member you can exchange ideas about SSE, inform others of your work and get connected to colleagues from all over the world. You are welcome to post comments in your preferred language, and becoming a member is free of charge. Please share the webpage with your networks: [http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Social-Solidarity-Economy-5117299/about?trk=anet ug\\_grppro](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Social-Solidarity-Economy-5117299/about?trk=anet ug_grppro)

Clean Air Asia Study 2012: **Website:** <http://cleanairinitiative.org/portal/node/11338>

African Economic Outlook 2012: Promoting Youth Employment Publisher: Various. With almost 200 million people aged between 15 and 24, Africa has the youngest population in the world. This number will double by 2045. Many jobs have been created over the last decade, but the pace needs to accelerate significantly to match the demand of Africa's next generations. **Website:** <http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en/>

State of China's Cities: 2010/2011: Better City, Better Life Publisher: UNHABITAT. **Website:** [www.scribd.com/doc/39882697/State-of-China-s-Cities-Report-2010-2011](http://www.scribd.com/doc/39882697/State-of-China-s-Cities-Report-2010-2011)

Still our Common Interest: Commission for Africa Report 2010 Publisher: Commission for Africa **Website:** [www.commissionforafrica.info/2010-report](http://www.commissionforafrica.info/2010-report)

The Emerging Middle Class in Developing Countries Publisher: OECD. **Website:** [www.oecdilibrary.org/oecd/content/workingpaper/5kmp8lncrns-en\(PDF - 2.09 mb\)](http://www.oecdilibrary.org/oecd/content/workingpaper/5kmp8lncrns-en(PDF - 2.09 mb))

The Implications of China's Ascendancy for Africa by Hany Besada, Publisher: The Centre for International Governance Innovation. This paper examines the extent to which China's engagement with Africa has produced mutual benefits for both and whether Africa is reaping the necessary benefits required for poverty alleviation and economic development. **Website:** [http://www.cigionline.com/sites/default/files/Paper\\_40-web.pdf](http://www.cigionline.com/sites/default/files/Paper_40-web.pdf)

Global Economic Decoupling Alive and Well Emerging economies decouple from the U.S., come closer to Europe. **Website:** <http://www.marketoracle.co.uk/Article23670.html>

Africa begins to make poverty history: U.S. economists challenge conventional view that the continent is a basket case **Website:** [www.guardian.co.uk/business/2010/mar/03/africa-makes-poverty-history](http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2010/mar/03/africa-makes-poverty-history)

The Demise of the Rest: on How the BRICS Are Crumbling and Why Global Economic Convergence Is a Myth by Ruchir Sharma, Publisher: Foreign Affairs. **Website:** <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/138219/ruchir-sharma/broken-brics>

Meteoric Mongolia: Why It's Ascending So Fast – And How It Might Fall by Morris Rossabi, Publisher: Foreign Affairs. **Website:** <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/138794/morris-rossabi/meteoric-mongolia>

## **Magazines**

**Southern Innovator Issue 1: Mobile Phones and Information Technology** Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/95410448/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-1-Mobile-Phones-and-Information-Technology>

**Southern Innovator Issue 2: Youth and Entrepreneurship** Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/106055335/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-2-Youth-and-Entrepreneurship>

**Southern Innovator Issue 3: Agribusiness and Food Security** Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/106055665/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-3-Agribusiness-and-Food-Security>

**Southern Innovator Issue 4: Cities and Urbanization** Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/133622315/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-4-Cities-and-Urbanization>

## **New Publication**

**Southern Innovator Issue 4: Cities and Urbanization: The Global South's Increasing Urbanization: Challenges to City Living** Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation in UNDP. Southern Innovator's fourth issue goes to the new cities being built to tackle the challenges of the 21st century and the rapidly urbanizing global South. Order copies for distribution from the UN Office for South-South Cooperation in UNDP. ISSN 2222-9280 ISBN 978-0-9920217-0-2 Website: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/133622315/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-4-Cities-and-Urbanization>

## **On the Web**

### **Blogs and Websites**

**Raspberry Pi:** The Raspberry Pi is a credit-card sized computer that plugs into your TV and a keyboard. It's a capable little PC which can be used for many of the things that your desktop PC does, like spreadsheets, word-processing and games. It also plays high-definition video. Raspberry Pi want to see it being used by kids all over the world to learn programming. **Website:** [raspberrypi.org](http://raspberrypi.org)

**African Robotics Network:** The African Robotics Network (AFRON) is a community of institutions, organizations and individuals engaged in robotics in Africa. AFRON seeks to promote communication and collaborations that will enhance robotics-related education, research and industry on the continent. To achieve this, AFRON organizes projects, meetings and events in Africa at robotics and automation conferences abroad. **Website:** <http://robotics-africa.org/>

**Polis:** A collaborative blog about cities around the globe. **Website:** <http://www.thepolisblog.org/2012/03/coca-cola-in-africa.html>

**mDirectory:** The mDirectory is the most comprehensive database of information on mobile tech for social change on the Web: case studies, mobile tools, research, and how-to guides. **Website:** <http://mobileactive.org/directory>

**Global Development:** Launched in September 2010, this website from the Guardian newspaper tracks progress on the MDGs, encourages debate on its blogs, offers a rich store of datasets from around the world, and features monthly podcasts and resources for schools. **Website:** [www.guardian.co.uk/global-development](http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development)

### **Focus on Land in Africa**

Focus on Land in Africa (FOLA) is an educational resource for development practitioners and policy makers that explores how land and natural resource rights affect, and are effected by, development in Africa. Through raising awareness of these issues, FOLA aims to elevate land and natural resource rights as an urgent priority for development in Africa. **Website:** [http://www.focusonland.com/?utm\\_source=Com+Plotlines+-+OCT+2013&utm\\_campaign=4+Plotlines+SEPT+2013+Plots&utm\\_medium=email](http://www.focusonland.com/?utm_source=Com+Plotlines+-+OCT+2013&utm_campaign=4+Plotlines+SEPT+2013+Plots&utm_medium=email)

### **India Water Tool**

The India Water Tool (IWT) is a country customization of the Global Water Tool, and has been developed by a 14 company working group based in India. The companies pooled their expertise to obtain the best available data on ground water availability and quality in India and customize the tool to their country context. The tool will help companies respond to the growing challenges of managing water effectively in this large, water scarce country. **Website:** <http://www.wbcd.org/indiawatertool.aspx>

### **International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs)**

International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs) is a pluralist network of progressive economists across the world, engaged in research, teaching and dissemination of critical analyses of economic policy and development. **Website:** [www.networkideas.org/](http://www.networkideas.org/)

OECD: Tackling the economic crisis website

The global economic crisis is entering a new phase amid signs of a return to positive growth in many countries.

But unemployment is likely to remain **Website:**

<http://www.oecd.org/general/tacklingthecrisisastrategicresponse.htm>

The Global Urbanist: News and analysis of cities around the world: planning, governance, economy, communities, environment, international. **Website:** [globalurbanist.com](http://globalurbanist.com)

ICT Update: A bimonthly printed bulletin, a web magazine, and an accompanying email newsletter that explores innovative uses of information technology in agriculture and rural development in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. **Website:** <http://ictupdate.cta.int/en/Regulars/Perspectives/%28issue%29/56>

Youth-Inclusive Financial Services (YFS-Link) Program website: The first space for financial services providers (FSPs) and youth-service organizations (YSOs) to gather, learn and share about youth-inclusive financial services.

**Website:** <http://www.makingcents.com/ourWork/yfsLink.php>

Triple Crisis Blog: Global Perspectives on Finance, Development and Environment. **Website:**

<http://triplecrisis.com/>

Full Disclosure: The Aid Transparency Blog: A Devex blog, written by members of the international community.

**Website:** [www.devex.com/en/blogs/full-disclosure](http://www.devex.com/en/blogs/full-disclosure)

Africa Portal: An online knowledge resource offering researchers and opinion leaders a forum to share their insights on Africa and publish their work on pressing areas of concern to policymakers and the public. It aims to fill the gap in accessibility to research and information on policy issues on the continent. **Website:**

[africaportal.org](http://africaportal.org)

African Economic Outlook: A unique online tool that puts rigorous economic data, information and research on Africa at your fingertips. A few clicks gives access to comprehensive analyses of African economies, placed in their social and political contexts. This is the only place where African countries are examined through a common analytical framework, allowing you to compare economic prospects at the regional, sub-regional and country levels. **Website:** [africaneconomicoutlook.org/en](http://africaneconomicoutlook.org/en)

Africa Renewal: The Africa Renewal information programme, produced by the Africa Section of the United Nations Department of Public Information, provides up-to-date information and analysis of the major economic and development challenges facing Africa today. **Website:** [www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/afrec/](http://www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/afrec/)

Timbuktu Chronicles: A blog by Emeka Okafor

With "a view of Africa and Africans with a focus on entrepreneurship, innovation, technology, practical remedies and other self-sustaining activities." **Website:** <http://timbuktuchronicles.blogspot.com/>

AfriGadget: AfriGadget is a must-read for African invention junkies. They are always on the look out for ingenious innovation that is new or a repurposing of existing technology in a new way, interesting in the sense that the story captures the imagination of others, inspiring others to see solutions in uncommon ways, practical ideas that solve problems in a demonstrable way, and entrepreneurs who are inventing new products or solutions. **Website:** [afrigadget.com](http://afrigadget.com)

### **Interesting Blogger**

**Emeka Okafor, Timbuktu Chronicles:** Emeka Okafor is an entrepreneur and venture catalyst who lives in New York City. He is the curator of Maker Faire Africa. He was the director for TED Global 2007 that took place in

Arusha, Tanzania. In addition he is a member of the TED fellowship team. His interests include sustainable technologies in the developing world and paradigm-breaking technologies in general. His blog, Timbuktu Chronicles, seeks to spur dialogue in areas of entrepreneurship, technology and the scientific method as it impacts Africa. **Website:** <http://timbuktuchronicles.blogspot.co.uk/>

## **Notable Websites**

### **UNRISD**

The United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) is an autonomous research institute within the UN system that undertakes multidisciplinary research and policy analysis on the social dimensions of contemporary development issues. UNRISD's new website is packed with resources and publications and always has a new event worth checking out. **Website:** <http://www.unrisd.org/>

## **Social Media**

### **Africa Entrepreneurship Platform**

This ground breaking initiative is created as a forum to showcase innovative ideas and businesses from Africa that have the ability to scale internationally, driving job creation and sustainable economic development between Africa and the Americas. **Website:** [www.sacca.biz](http://www.sacca.biz)

AfriGadget on Facebook: 'Solving everyday problems with African ingenuity': **Website:** [www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2402629579](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2402629579)

## **Start-up Funding**

### **Venture Capital for Africa**

Venture Capital for Africa ([www.vc4africa.biz](http://www.vc4africa.biz)) is the continent's leading founder's network, the largest and fastest growing community of entrepreneurs and investors building promising companies in Africa. The community currently supports more than 1000 + ventures in more than 30 African countries. Already entrepreneurs have been featured in mainstream media, established joint ventures and secured funding. **Website:** <http://vc4africa.biz/>

### **Ashoka - Innovators for the Public**

To support social entrepreneurs who are leading and collaborating with changemakers, in a team of teams model that addresses the fluidity of a rapidly evolving society. Ashoka believes that anyone can learn and apply the critical skills of empathy, team work, leadership and changemaking to be successful in the modern world.

**Website:** <https://www.ashoka.org/>

### **Betterplace**

Betterplace.org is a transparent online donation platform. 5,818 projects already use the free technology and advice – and 392,264 donors have enthusiastically contributed. **Website:** <http://www.betterplace.org/en>

### **Hubs!**

They are sprouting up all over the place and now there is a map showing where they are in Africa. Website:

<https://africahubs.crowdmap.com/#> And there are 18 in Latin America too. **Website:** <http://thenextweb.com/la/2012/08/11/18-latin-american-tech-hubs-know/>

### **The SEED Initiative**

Hosted by the UN Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), the SEED Initiative is a global partnership for action on the Green Economy. The annual SEED Awards help to develop the most promising social and environmental start-ups in emerging economies and developing countries.

**Website:** <http://unep.org/newscentre/Default.aspx?DocumentID=2647&ArticleID=8798&l=en>

### **The Pioneers of Prosperity Grant and Award**

This competition is a partnership between the OTF Group and the John F. Templeton Foundation of the United States, and promotes companies in East Africa by identifying local role models that act as examples of sustainable businesses in their country/region. It is open to businesses from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda. Five pioneers will receive US \$50,000 to re-invest in their business. It is open to for-profit businesses that provide high wages to their workers and that operate in sustainable ways.

**Website:** <http://pioneersofprosperity.org/index.php>

### **Oxford Said Business School Youth Business Development Competition**

Open to youth between 16 and 21 across the world, the competition is run by students at Oxford University to promote social enterprise. A prize fund of £2,000 in seed capital is up for grabs. It calls itself the 'world's first global youth development competition'.

**Website:** [www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/oba/se/ybd](http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/oba/se/ybd)

## **Challenge**

InnoCentive ([www.innocentive.com/](http://www.innocentive.com/)) is a challenge to the world's inventors to find solutions to real scientific and technological problems affecting the poor and vulnerable. It is an open marketplace where anybody with a problem can post it, and rewards for effective solutions stretch up to US \$100,000. They use rigorous intellectual



property protection so ideas are not stolen without credit being given to the inventor. **Website:** [www.rockfound.org/about\\_us/news/2007/0720first\\_seeker.shtml](http://www.rockfound.org/about_us/news/2007/0720first_seeker.shtml)

#### **Rwanda Innovation Endowment Fund (RIEF)**

Rwanda Research Innovation Endowment Fund (RIEF) was established and is managed by the Government of Rwanda, through the Ministry of Education (MINEDUC) in partnership with UNECA (SRO-EA & ISTD) under One UN Rwanda. The objective of this Fund is to stimulate economic transformation through R&D in innovative market-oriented products and processes in priority areas of the economy, thereby increasing prosperity and the competitiveness of the Rwandan economy. The orientation can be either for economic growth, social development or combination of the two. **Website:** <http://www.mineduc.gov.rw/spip.php?article21>

#### **The Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA)**

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the African Innovation Foundation (AIF) are delighted to announce the call for applications for the 2013 Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA). Too often, innovators and entrepreneurs are not highly profiled on the African development agenda. It is IPA's mission to elevate attention around innovative work and help support the vision of entrepreneurs. The prize honours and encourages innovative achievements that contribute towards the development of new products, increased efficiency or cost savings in Africa. The prize also promotes the efforts of young African men and women pursuing science, technology and engineering careers as well as business opportunities that aim to contribute to sustainable development in Africa. **Website:** <http://innovationprizeforafrica.org/>

#### **Video**

Forum for the Future: Compelling animated videos exploring the hard choices of an urbanizing world and the need to promote sustainable development and environmental harmony. **Website:** <http://www.youtube.com/user/forumforthefuture96>

## **EVENTS**

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to [developmentchallenges@googlemail.com](mailto:developmentchallenges@googlemail.com).

### **2013**

#### **November**

##### **From Start-up to Established: Advice from Digital Divide Data**

Washington, DC, USA (6 November 2013)

Join Making Cents International and David Hockenstein, founder of Digital Divide Data, for an inside look at impact sourcing and its role in creating economic opportunities for poor and marginalized youth around the world.

**Website:** <http://www.youtheconomicopportunities.org/event/1625/start-established-advice-digital-divide-data>

##### **Mobile Future**

Odenplan, Sweden (7 November 2013)

Mobile Future is the leading business and developer conference in the mobile space in the Nordics. Inspiring speakers and experts talk about major industry trends and discuss how to monetize mobile services.

**Website:** <http://www.mobilefuture.se/index.php/about/>

##### **Downloading the Future of Business: Embracing Digital Opportunities to Make the World a Better Place**

Stockholm, Sweden (12 to 13 November 2013)

SIME is Northern Europe's largest conference about the internet and digital opportunities with flagship events in London, Stockholm and Miami. SIME brings together thought leaders, top executives, marketing professionals and innovators to explore business opportunities together with world class speakers, workshop leaders and experts. At SIME digital opportunities become new business, a better world and a lot of fun.

**Website:** <http://nonprofit.sime.nu/>

##### **The Social Innovation Summit**

Stanford, California (19 to 20 November 2013)

The Social Innovation Summit is a twice annual event that represents a global convening of black swans and wayward thinkers. Those who are playing at the nexus of technology, investment, philanthropy, international development, and business come together to investigate solutions and catalyze inspired partnerships that are disrupting history.

**Website:** <http://www.eiseverywhere.com/ehome/68788/home/?&internal=1>

##### **Launch of the Least Developed Countries Report 2013**

(20 November 2013)

The UNCTAD Least Developed Countries Report 2013 will focus on the theme of “Growth with employment for inclusive and sustainable development”. The report, noting that 130 million people will enter the labour force in LDCs by 2020, reviews past LDC trends relating to economic growth and employment and recommends policy steps to accelerate job creation.

**Website:** <http://unctad.org/en/Pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=300>

European Development Days

Brussels, Belgium (26 to 27 November 2013)

Organized by the European Commission, European Development Days is Europe’s premier forum on international affairs and development cooperation. Over the years, European Development Days has been one of the fastest-growing international forums and has become a landmark event in the development calendar.

**Website:** <http://eudevdays.eu/>

## December

### **Launch of the Information Economy Report 2013**

(3 December 2013)

**Website:** <http://unctad.org/en/Pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=301>

## 2014

### January

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to [developmentchallenges@googlemail.com](mailto:developmentchallenges@googlemail.com).

### February

### **World Congress on Agroforestry 2014**

Delhi, India (10-14 February 2014)

The Congress, entitled ‘*Trees for Life: Accelerating the Impacts of Agroforestry*’, will draw over 1200 selected participants from the private, research and development sectors to share the current state of knowledge and accelerate the positive financial, environmental and social impacts of agroforestry.

**Website:** <https://b-com.mci-group.com/Registration/WCA2014.aspx>

## AWARDS AND FUNDING

### **World Habitat Awards 2014**

New deadline for World Habitat Award submissions: the World Habitat Awards will now be presented at the World Urban Forum and UN-Habitat Governing Council events in April of each year, increasing opportunities for international exposure, networking and dissemination of the award winning approaches. The timetable for the awards is therefore being adjusted and the closing date for submissions for the current cycle of the World Habitat Awards is now **2 May 2014**. **Website:** <http://www.worldhabitatawards.org/enter/?lang=00>

### **Mayors Challenge**

Innovation comes from an intentional process of experimentation and exploration. The 2013–2014 Mayors Challenge is an ideas competition for European cities—a chance to win funding for a bold new solution to a major urban challenge. It exists to bring powerful new ideas to life—not only to help your own city, but to encourage others to adopt creative approaches as well. **Website:**

<http://mayorchallenge.bloomberg.org/index.cfm?objectid=58B735E0-1A4E-11E3-8975000C29C7CA2F>

### **The EU Contest for Young Scientists**

The European Union (EU) Contest for Young Scientists, an initiative of the European Commission, was set up to promote the ideals of co-operation and interchange between young scientists.

**Website:** [http://ec.europa.eu/research/youngscientists/index\\_en.cfm?pg=history](http://ec.europa.eu/research/youngscientists/index_en.cfm?pg=history)

### **2013 Innovation Prize for Africa**

The second round of the Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA), which aims to reward innovation across Africa in key sectors of interest, has been launched. The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) expect the prize to promote among young African men and women in the pursuit of science, technology and engineering careers and business applications. The aims are to:

- Mobilize leaders from all sectors to fuel African innovation;
- Promote innovation across Africa in key sectors of interest through the competition;
- Promote science, technology and engineering as rewarding, exciting and noble career options among the youth in Africa by profiling success applicants; and
- Encourage entrepreneurs, innovators, funding bodies and business development service providers to exchange ideas and explore innovative business opportunities.

**Website:** [innovationPrizeForAfrica.org](http://innovationPrizeForAfrica.org)

### **World Summit Youth Award**

The international contest for young people using the Internet and mobiles to take action on the UN Millennium Development Goals.

**Website:** [www.youthaward.org](http://www.youthaward.org)

### **Grand Challenges Canada: Request for Proposals**

Grand Challenges Canada is pleased to announce a new initiative in its Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health grand challenge. It's called Saving Brains. Its goal is to unlock potential in children and dramatically transform lives in the developing world. The money to fund this program comes from the Development Innovation Fund. In Budget 2008, the Government of Canada committed \$225 million CAD over five years to the Development Innovation Fund, to support the best minds in the world in a collaborative search for solutions to global health challenges. For the Request for Proposals:

**Website:** [http://www.grandchallenges.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Request for Proposals-Saving Brains EN.pdf](http://www.grandchallenges.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Request_for_Proposals-Saving_Brains_EN.pdf)

### **Zayed Future Energy Prize**

The world is in desperate need of innovative solutions to create a new, sustainable energy future. No one knows who or where the next great energy solution will come from. Solutions and technologies that could change the world are being developed globally, and the \$2.2 million Zayed Future Energy Prize, managed by Masdar in Abu Dhabi, recognizes and rewards innovation, leadership, and long-term vision in renewable energy and sustainability.

**Website:** [www.zayedfutureenergyprize.com/](http://www.zayedfutureenergyprize.com/)

### **Philips Liveable Cities Award**

Philips is looking for individuals and community or non-government organizations and businesses with ideas for "simple solutions" that will improve people's health and well-being in a city to enter the Philips Liveable Cities Award. To help translate these ideas into reality, three Award grants totalling €125,000 are on the line. One overall winning idea from any of the three categories outlined below will receive a grant of €75,000, while the two additional ideas will receive grants of €25,000.

**Website:** <http://www.becausephilips.com/livable-cities-award/about-the-award>

### **Piramal Foundation in India**

Has established a US \$25,000 prize for ideas that help advance full access to effective public health care in India. The Piramal Prize is a \$25,000 Social Entrepreneurship Competition focused on democratizing health care in India that seeks to encourage and support bold entrepreneurial ideas which can profoundly impact access to higher standards of health for India's rural and marginalized urban communities. The award recognizes high-impact, scalable business models and innovative solutions that directly or indirectly address India's health-care crisis.

**Website:** [www.piramalprize.org](http://www.piramalprize.org)

### **Special Award for South-South Transfer**

The aim of the award is to identify, provide visibility, and honour those who have successfully shared their projects and approaches internationally, thereby increasing the impact of the initiative. The winning practice receives US \$15,000 to further transfer the awarded practice to other communities in developing countries.

**Website:** [www.southsouthexpo.org](http://www.southsouthexpo.org)

### **South-South Experience Exchange Facility**

Supported by Mexico, China, India, Denmark, Spain, The Netherlands, and the U.K. and now Colombia, the South-South Experience Exchange Facility is a multi-donor trust fund that promotes the idea that developing countries can learn from the successes of other developing countries in overcoming similar challenges. In the past 12 months, the trust has given out 35 grants to countries for learning activities ranging from working with at risk youth in the Caribbean to outsourcing IT services in Africa.

**Website:** [www.southsouthcases.info](http://www.southsouthcases.info)

### **African Writers Fund**

Together with the Ford Foundation, the Fund supports the work of independent creative writers living on the continent. The Fund recognizes the vital role that poets and novelists play in Africa by anticipating and reflecting the cultural, economic and political forces that continuously shape and reshape societies.

**Website:** [http://www.trustafrica.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=91&Itemid=90&lang=fr](http://www.trustafrica.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=91&Itemid=90&lang=fr)

### **Joint NAM S&T Centre - ICCS Fellowship Programme**

Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre) and International Center for Chemical Sciences (ICCS), (H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry and Dr. Panjwani Centre for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research), University of Karachi, Karachi, Pakistan

[Click here for more information](#)

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### **PhD Plant Breeding Scholarships at the University of Ghana**

The University of Ghana ([www.ug.edu.gh](http://www.ug.edu.gh)) has been awarded a project support grant by the Alliance for a Green Revolution ([www.agra-alliance.org](http://www.agra-alliance.org)) in Africa (a joint venture between the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation, for the establishment of a West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI). This is available to scientists working at NARIs, universities and international centres in West Africa. Women scientists are especially encouraged to apply for a fellowship under this programme.

**Website:** [www.acci.org.za/Default.asp?nav=Home&idno=10](http://www.acci.org.za/Default.asp?nav=Home&idno=10)

### **Genesis: India's Premier Social Entrepreneurship Competition**

Is a social entrepreneurship competition aiming to bring together social entrepreneurs, students, NGOs, innovators, incubators, corporations and financiers and encourage them to come up with innovative ideas which are socially relevant and feasible.

**Website:** <http://genesis.iitm.ac.in/>

## **Jobs and Careers**

### **Weitzenegger's International Development Job Market**

**Website:** [www.weitzenegger.de/new/jobmarket.php](http://www.weitzenegger.de/new/jobmarket.php)

### **Global Knowledge Initiative**

The Global Knowledge Initiative seeks to build global knowledge partnerships between individuals and institutions of higher education and research. It seeks to help partners access the global knowledge, technology, and human resources needed to sustain growth and achieve prosperity for all."

**Website:** [www.globalknowledgeinitiative.org/](http://www.globalknowledgeinitiative.org/)

### **ExportHelp - Promoting and supporting access to the European market**

The European Commission runs a database for the explicit support of market players in developing countries who want to bring their products to the EU market. The database gives an overview on the EU's preferential trade regimes established for developing countries as well as lists all tariffs, taxes and other requirements for goods imported into the EU.

**Website:** <http://exporthelp.europa.eu>

### **Development Executive Group Devex Networking Website**

Over 90,000 global experts can network and connect and learn about more than 47,000 registered projects.

**Website:** [www.devex.org](http://www.devex.org)

### **Website Offers Career Advice to Young Africans**

Set up by the Commonwealth Secretariat, [Africancareerguidance.com](http://Africancareerguidance.com) is aimed at providing career guidance to African youth and helping them to link with prospective employers. AfricaRecruit is a human resources organization that provides skills training for African professionals in the Diaspora and on the continent. The website has an inbuilt email subscriber list for all its users and offers a searchable database of career profiles for job seekers and prospective employers. It also offers skills and interest assessments and advice on CV and résumé preparation. It provides tips about interviewing techniques, as well as information on internship and volunteer opportunities, and entrepreneurial skills.

**Website:** [www.africacareerguidance.com](http://www.africacareerguidance.com)

### **African Diaspora Skills Database**

This database was compiled to provide an overview of qualified African Diaspora professionals with varied areas of expertise and experience. The African Diaspora contributes substantially to the social, economic and political development of Africa, and this database is set up to further mobilize this considerable potential.

**Website:** [www.diaspora-centre.org/NEWSLETTER/Database](http://www.diaspora-centre.org/NEWSLETTER/Database)

### **Aid Workers Network (AWN)**

Aid Workers Network (AWN) is an online platform for aid, relief and development workers to ask and answer questions of each other, and to exchange resources and information. AWN is registered in the United Kingdom as a charity. You will find discussions about a range of questions and issues on the AWN forum from aid, relief and development workers all over the world and representing a variety of fields, with new threads or responses posted daily. The forum is a great way to get in contact with other aid and development workers in your geographic area or working in a similar area of work.

**Website:** [www.aidworkers.net](http://www.aidworkers.net)

### **Bizzlounge**

Bizzlounge is where people committed to ethical behaviour meet, who want to establish and maintain business contacts in an exclusive and relaxed environment.

**Website:** <http://bizzlounge.com>

### **Business Action for Africa**

Business Action for Africa is a network of businesses and business organizations working collectively to accelerate growth and poverty reduction in Africa.

**Website:** <http://businessactionforafrica.blogspot.com> \_

### **Business Fights Poverty**

Business Fights Poverty is a professional network for all those passionate about fighting world poverty through the power of good business.

**Website:** <http://businessfightspoverty.ning.com>

### **Business in Development Network (BiD)**

The BiD Network Foundation runs the BiD Challenge to contribute to sustainable economic development by

stimulating entrepreneurship in developing countries.

**Website:** [www.bidnetwork.org](http://www.bidnetwork.org)

### **Zunia**

By Development Exchange, it offers news, publications and networking opportunities with the world's development community.

**Website:** [www.zunia.org](http://www.zunia.org)

### **Catalogue of Poverty Networks**

UNDP is organizing an online catalogue of Poverty Networks as a means to facilitate access to knowledge and sharing this to a wider audience in 189 countries. Poverty Networks are web-based platforms that provide space for sharing and disseminating development-related information and initiatives. Below you will find information on IPC's collaborating networks, which help foster dialogue between researchers, policymakers, civil society and multilateral organizations.

**Website:** [www.undp-povertycentre.org/povnet.do](http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/povnet.do)

### **Connections for Development (CfD)**

CfD is a UK, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) led, membership based organization committed to ensuring that UK BME communities, and the organizations they are involved in, are supported in the process of shaping and delivering policy and projects that affect their countries of origin or interest – collectively "our world".

**Website:** [www.cfdnetwork.co.uk](http://www.cfdnetwork.co.uk)

### **Development Crossing**

Development Crossing was set up in 2006 by a small group of friends with diverse backgrounds ranging from business consulting to international development. In a world where the environment, corporate responsibility, and sustainable development are becoming increasingly intertwined, our goal was to create a site where individuals that shared our passion could keep up-to-date with relevant happenings in the world and connect with like-minded individuals. The idea behind Development Crossing is to provide a social network that brings together people from a variety of sectors, countries and professions to discuss corporate social responsibility and sustainable development.

**Website:** [www.developmentcrossing.com](http://www.developmentcrossing.com)

### **DevelopmentAid.org**

The one-stop-information-shop for the developmental sector, DevelopmentAid.org is a membership organization that brings together information for developmental professionals, NGOs, consultancy firms and donors.

**Website:** [www.developmentaid.org](http://www.developmentaid.org)

### **dgCommunities on the Development Gateway (Zunia.org)**

Zunia.org, a free online service by the Development Gateway Foundation is devoted to knowledge-sharing and collaboration for people working to reduce poverty in the developing world.

**Website:** <http://topics.developmentgateway.org>

### **Diaspora African Forum**

This Forum exists "to invite and encourage the full participation of Africans in the Diaspora in the building of the African Union, in its capacity as an important part of the Continent". We will provide the vital linkage for Diaspora Africans to become involved in Africa's development as well as reap the fruits of African unity.

**Website:** [www.diasporafricanforum.org](http://www.diasporafricanforum.org)

### **Business Planet: a new data map on Entrepreneurship**

Business Planet, an interactive Google map, now includes data on new business creation around the world. Measures of entrepreneurial activity are based on the number of total and newly registered corporations. Click on colour markers to learn more about each country.

**Website:** <http://rru.worldbank.org/businessplanet/default.aspx?pid=8>